In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 15 with the following:

In the extreme, queue-based flow management assigns one queue per input flow. Queues are read out of the router according to statistically fair scheduling 10 process, such as round-robin, employing port scheduler 50. In round-robin scheduling, one packet is read out of each queue, one queue at a time, reading again from the first queue only when one packet has been read out from every other queue. This system is known as fair queuing (FQ). While FQ and its variants (e.g., weighted fair queuing, stochastic fair queuing) operate well when the number and variety of input flows is 15 small and well-behaved, they ~~becomes~~ become inefficient when the number of flows grows. Clearly, a high number of flows requires a large number of queues, consuming a proportionally larger amount of resources, both in hardware and in operational complexity. More memory and more software processing overhead is required to set up and tear down the queues as flows begin and end. In the context of the modern, 20 high volume networks seen today, this extra cost and complexity is undesirably inefficient.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15 with the following:

Although the terms switch and/or router will be used generally in this specification, those skilled in the art will realize that other related internetworking devices may be used, in addition to routers or switches, to perform analogous functions. Accordingly, the invention is not limited to any particular type of internetworking device, router, or switch. Also, although the primary focus of the 15 current invention is Internet Protocol (IP) packet flows, those skilled in the ~~will~~ art will realize that protocols and flows other than IP can be benefit from the present invention and its alternate embodiments. Accordingly, the invention is not limited to any particular type of protocol or packet format.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 7 with the following:

Although an IP packet is described, those skilled in the ~~will~~ art will realize that datagrams or packets other than IP packets can be used. Other datagram formats are accommodated simply by determining the type of datagram received by methods 10 well-known in the art, such as reading identifying data from the header, and applying the hash function described above to the

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appropriate data fields. Accordingly, the invention is not limited to any particular type of datagram.